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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hisao Furukawa, et al.) Re: Information Disclosure Statement

Serial No.: 09/827,267

) Group: 2661

Filed: April 5, 2001

) Examiner: not yet assigned

For: "TERMINAL-TO-TERMINAL

COMMUNICATION CONNECTION..."

) Our Ref: B-4132 618659-5

) Date: December 17, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

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Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

It should be noted that the above-identified application may be considered to be related by subject matter to the following U.S. Application(s): 09/165,212, filed October 2, 1998; 09/568,515 (now allowed), filed May 9, 2000; 09/899,404, filed July 5, 2001; 10/165,326, filed June 7, 2002; and 10/620,785, filed July 15, 2003 with an effective U.S. filing date of May 9, 2000. In addition, the present application has claims that may be considered to be similar to the claims in the U.S. applications that are mentioned in the preceding sentence. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) and M.P.E.P. § 2004, paragraph 9, the applicant brings these co-pending applications to the attention of the Examiner. The Examiner should consider this information during the prosecution of the above-identified application. However, citation of these applications does not constitute an admission that the claims of the present application are substantially similar or similar to those of the applications listed above.

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The first sentence of the preceding paragraph mentions five U.S. patent applications, four of which were previously submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) that was filed in the above-identified U.S. Application No. 09/827,267 with a Certificate of Mailing dated September 12, 2003. Specifically, the September 12, 2003 IDS includes a copy of U.S. Application No. 09/165,212; a copy of U.S. Application No. 09/568,515 (now allowed); a copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0124084 A1, which is the published version of U.S. Application No. 09/899,404; and a copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0196782 A1, which is the published version of U.S. Application No. 10/165,326. In addition, please note that a copy of U.S. Application No. 10/620,785, which is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/568,515, is enclosed herewith and is substantively the same as the originally filed version of U.S. Application No. 09/568,515.

A copy of a European Search Report (14 pages) for the Applicant's European Patent Application No. 01200880.1 is enclosed herewith. The documents that are listed on Form-1449 (modified) include documents that were cited in this European Search Report, which was mailed on October 20, 2003.

The European Search Report also cites WIPO International Publication No. WO 97/28628 A, WIPO International Publication No. WO 98/06201 A, WIPO International Publication No. WO 99/28827 A, and an article by Hamdi, et al. entitled "Voice Service Interworking for PSTN and IP Networks." The documents that are mentioned in the first sentence of this paragraph were previously submitted to the USPTO with an IDS that was filed in the above-identified U.S. Application No. 09/827,267 with a Certificate of

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Mailing dated February 18, 2003. Therefore, the documents that are mentioned in the first sentence of this paragraph are not listed in the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified); and copies of these documents are not enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

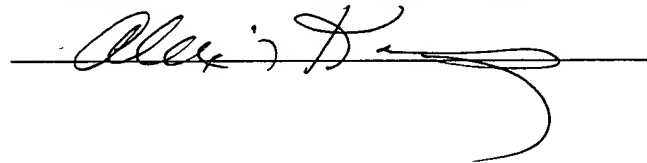
The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned attorney to have him authorize the USPTO to charge our deposit account no. 12-0415 \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

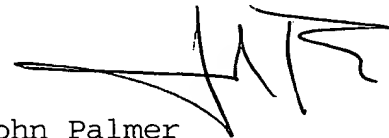
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The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on December 17, 2003 by Alexis Karriker.



Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (2 pages)
Copy of each document listed on Form PTO-1449
(modified)



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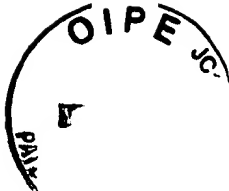
Form PTO-1449 (Modified) Page 2 of 2	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-4132 618659-5	U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/827,267
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANT(S): Hisao Furukawa, et al.	
	FILING DATE: April 5, 2001	GROUP: 2661

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Anquetil, L.-P., et al., "Media Gateway Control Protocol and Voice Over IP Gateways," <i>Alcatel Telecommunications Review</i> , 2nd Quarter, pp. 151-157 (1999).
	Gbaguidi, C., et al., "A Programmable Architecture for the Provision of Hybrid Services," <i>IEEE Communications Magazine</i> , pp. 110-116 (July 1999).
	Hui, S.C., et al., "Towards a Standards-Based Internet Telephony System," <i>Computer Standards & Interfaces</i> , Vol. 19, pp. 89-103 (1998).
	Hunt, R., "Internet/Intranet Firewall Security--Policy, Architecture, and Transaction Services," <i>Computer Communications</i> , Vol. 21, pp. 1107-1123 (1998).
	Malkin, G.S., "Dial-In Virtual Private Networks Using Layer 3 Tunneling," <i>IEEE</i> , pp. 555-561 (1997).
	European Search Report (14 pages), which was mailed on October 20, 2003, for European Patent Application No. 01200880.1.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	EFFECTIVE FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,898,830	4/27/1999	Wesinger, Jr. et al.	395	187.01	
	5,999,612	12/7/1999	Dunn et al.	379	212	
	10/620,785		Furukawa et al.			5/9/2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	0 698 975 A2	2/28/1996	EP			
	0 825 748 A2	2/25/1998	EP			
	0 851 653 A2	7/1/1998	EP			
	0 928 095 A2	7/7/1999	EP			
	0 973 343 A1	1/19/2000	EP			
	2 313 981 A	12/10/1997	GB			
	2 332 818 A	6/30/1999	GB			

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	PCT INT'L FILING DATE	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	97/23078	6/26/1997	WO	12/12/1996	
	97/31492	8/28/1997	WO	2/21/1996	
	97/48051	12/18/1997	WO	6/4/1997	
	98/20724	5/22/1998	WO	11/12/1997	
	98/30008	7/9/1998	WO	12/22/1997	
	98/59523	12/30/1998	WO	6/18/1998	
	99/14931	3/25/1999	WO	9/16/1998	
	99/37061	7/22/1999	WO	1/13/1999	
	01/37529 A1	5/25/2001	WO	11/17/2000	